

I CLAIM:

1. An article of footwear for an animal comprising:

a support for a leg of the animal and for bearing against the ground; and

an enclosure for enclosing at least part of the leg of the animal, said

5 enclosure including wall means on said support, and said enclosure further including a pair of
tongues on said support movable relative to said wall means.

2. The article of claim 1, wherein said tongues are located diametrically opposite
one another.

3. The article of claim 1, wherein said enclosure further comprises at least one
10 band of pleated material connected to one of said tongues and to said wall means.

4. The article of claim 1, wherein said enclosure further comprises at least one
band of elastic material connected to one of said tongues and to said wall means.

5. The article of claim 4, wherein said one tongue has a pair of opposed edges and
said one band joins one of said edges to said wall means, said enclosure including an additional
15 band of elastic material joining the other of said edges to said wall means.

6. The article of claim 4, wherein said enclosure further comprises at least one band of pleated material connected to the other of said tongues and to said wall means.
7. The article of claim 1, further comprising a protrusion on one of said tongues to facilitate manipulation of said one tongue.
- 5 8. The article of claim 7, wherein said protrusion comprises a strap.
9. The article of claim 7, wherein said protrusion defines a loop.
10. The article of claim 1, further comprising means for tightening said enclosure around the leg of the animal.
11. The article of claim 10, further comprising a cover for at least part of said
10 tightening means.
12. The article of claim 10, wherein said tightening means comprises a tightening element which engages said enclosure and an operating element designed to exert a force on said tightening element so as to draw said enclosure around the leg of the animal.

13. The article of claim 12, further comprising a cover for said operating element.

14. The article of claim 12, wherein said operating element comprises a rotary mechanism.

15. The article of claim 12, wherein said operating element is mounted on said
5 wall means.

16. The article of claim 12, wherein said operating element is mounted on one of said tongues.

17. The article of claim 12, wherein said tightening element passes through said wall means and is slidable relative thereto.

10 18. An article of footwear for an animal comprising:

a support for a leg of the animal and for bearing against the ground; and

an enclosure for enclosing at least part of the leg of the animal, said

enclosure including wall means on said support, a tongue on said support movable relative to said wall means, and at least one band of elastic material connected to said tongue and to said

15 wall means.

19. The article of claim 18, wherein said tongue has a pair of opposed edges and said one band joins one of said edges to said wall means, said enclosure including an additional band of elastic material joining the other of said edges to said wall means.